

Israeli Music; Beyond Nationalist Signifiers

Featuring Prof. Assaf Shelleg



Thursday, April 24

5:15 – 6:45 pm

Leah M. Smith Hall
Clarice Smith Performing
Arts Center

Despite the proliferation of musical styles stemming from Israel's ethnic proximities, its histories have been punctuated by political dates or "representations." With nationalism as the main yardstick by which Israeli music is measured, narratives have consisted of responses to wars or other formulations whose easily identifiable musical citations rang the bells-and-whistles of the Zionist project. Examining the mechanism of Hebrew Culture in pre- and post-statehood years, Assaf Shelleg's talk will separate national rhetoric from processes of cultural hybridization so as to disclose cases in which music seeps across political and aesthetic borders to undermine both nationalist edifices as well as categories such as folk, popular, and art musics.

Please RSVP at <http://israelstudies.umd.edu/upcoming-events.html>



Assaf Shelleg is the Schusterman Visiting Assistant Professor of Musicology and Jewish Studies in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia. Prof. Shelleg specializes in twentieth-century Jewish and Israeli art music and his research has been published in some of the leading journals in both musicology and Israel Studies. A trained pianist, he is also a regular musical contributor to *Ha'aretz* newspaper. Shelleg's book, *Jewish Contiguities and the Soundtrack of Israeli History*, is scheduled to appear this fall, published by Oxford University Press.

This event is cosponsored by the Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies and the School of Music